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## **FEDERAL JURY RETURNS GUILTY VERDICT IN IMMIGRATION CASE**

### *Defendant guilty of harboring illegal aliens*

**Lafayette, Louisiana** . . . A federal jury in Lafayette, Louisiana has returned a guilty verdict convicting **DANIEL MARTINEZ-MEDINA**, age 29, of Pasadena, Texas, of harboring illegal aliens, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced.

An indictment was returned in March charging MARTINEZ-MEDINA with one count of harboring illegal aliens. These charges stemmed from an investigation by agents of the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement into the hiring of illegal aliens at a construction site in the Lake Charles area. Testimony at the trial revealed that MARTINEZ-MEDINA knowingly hired several Hispanic males who were in the United States illegally. It was further revealed that MARTINEZ-MEDINA not only hired these illegal immigrants and paid them in cash, but also housed and transported them to and from the job site.

After deliberating for 75 minutes, the jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty. MARTINEZ-MEDINA faces a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,00 fine, or both.

After today's conviction by the jury, MARTINEZ-MEDINA's counsel successfully convinced Judge Tucker L. Melançon to release MARTINEZ-MEDINA until his sentencing which is set for October 25, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Lafayette Resident Agency, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James T. McManus.

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